

PRESS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Western District of Wisconsin
(608) 264-5158
TTY (608) 264-5006
www.usdoj.gov/usao/wiw

For Immediate Release

June 16, 2006

Contact Person

David J. Reinhard
Assistant U.S. Attorney

Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Bernardo Garcia, DOB 6/13/73 of Chetek, Wisconsin, was sentenced yesterday by U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb to 162 months in prison for possession of pseudoephedrine with intent to manufacture methamphetamine. Garcia pleaded guilty to this charge on February 15, 2006.

On July 29, 2005, agents found Garcia's camper in a wooded area in Chetek. Surrounding the camper were anhydrous ammonia tanks, peeled lithium batteries and other items used to cook methamphetamine. While searching the area, Garcia drove onto the property and was stopped by law enforcement. The officers found 90 pseudoephedrine pills in Garcia's car. Garcia admitted that he was involved in manufacturing methamphetamine. Judge Crabb sentenced Garcia to the top of the advisory guideline range because of his extensive criminal record and the danger he posed to the community.

The charges against Garcia were the result of an investigation conducted by the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Criminal Investigation-Narcotics Bureau, the Barron-Rusk Drug Enforcement Unit, and the Polk County Sheriff's Department. Prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney David J. Reinhard.

#####